

IV. How does this relate to Christ?

Christ's love for the Church was and is very reasoned (though very emotional). He figured what it would take to purchase us out of our mess, and He went about doing it.

V. For the Walking Wounded (1 Thess 5:14, "Uphold the strengthless")

Don't let sad emotions take over. Sing a song to God every day.

VI. Conviction (2 Tim 4:2, "Convince, rebuke"): **What have I done wrong? How have I lost righteousness?**

Do I let impulses rule me? That's walking in the flesh rather than the Spirit.

VII. Correction/ Realignment (2 Tim 4:2, "Exhort/encourage"): **How will I correct my error? How will I regain uprightness?**

Lord, help me walk in the Spirit and recognize impulsiveness when it grabs at me.

VIII. Schooling in Righteousness: **How will I avoid the error and follow Christ ?**

Starting our day in God's presence should set our mind right for the morning. Then we probably need an afternoon booster.

Wrap-up: David reduced Ammon to a city without protection, even though he had left his own spirit breached and invaded in the Bathsheba incident.

Now Amnon would follow his dad's undisciplined path. In his reasonings, might Amnon have used David as an excuse? No matter, was David an excuse? No. No father's act can cause a son's sin. It is only "those hating Me" who continue in their fathers' evil legacies.

Does an unrestrained spirit pay its own bad dividends, though? Big yes. Prov 14:14.

A Breached City Without a Wall

2 Samuel 12:30 - 13:2

Nutshell: God gave us romantic love. Scripture testifies to its wonder, Prov 30:18-19. But we cannot let it control us. Our brain always has to rule our heart (not Biblically precise language, but close, 1 Cor 14:15).

I. Context: God resetting David in Solomon's birth.

II. Text

2 Sam 12:30 And he took their king's crown from upon his head. And its weight *was* a kikar of gold, plus a valuable stone. And it *was now* on David's head. And he brought out the plunder of the city- very abundant!

Literal Standard Version with modifications

The next four outline items, III. - VI., are based on the 4 uses of Scripture listed in 2 Tim 3:16 AND the 3 depictions of preaching in 2 Tim 4:2.

III. Teaching

Review

- A. The Book of Kingdoms, our 1 & 2 Sam + 1 & 2 Kings, is the story of Israel's kings, beginning with the prophet Samuel, who anointed both of the first two kings, Saul and David
 1. Samuel warned Israel vs. having a king, 1 Sam 10:19, Hos 13:11
 2. **Saul** demonstrated *man's* kind of rule. God previewed *His* version of king through **David**, 1 Sam 13:14
- ✿ B. 1 Kings 15:5 tells us that David kept God's commands *except* in the Bathsheba incident. This dramatically shapes our approach to each incident in David's life.
- C. David was God's chosen king, a *picture* of Messiah, but *not* the Messiah; a *reference point* for later kings of Judah, 2 Kings 14:3
 1. David was anointed king over **Judah**, 2 Sam 2, then **Israel**, 5:1-5.
 2. Trouble between the two begins in 2 Sam 2:12-32.
- D. **DAVID'S WAITING BUSINESS AS KING***
 1. Conquer Jebus (Jerusalem), where Goliath's head was, 1 Sam 17:54
 2. Retrieved the Ark from its 'wanderings', 6:1-19;

- tragically wrongly, 1 Chron 15:2; then rightly & joyfully
3. Build a permanent form for the Tabernacle, the Temple.
 - ★ 4. God chose **Abraham** to bless all nations. Now He chose **David's** line to bring forth the **King** of all nations
 5. Fulfill his oath to Jonathan through his son Mephibosheth, 9:1-13. *ALL OBLIGATIONS CAUGHT UP.
- E. The Ammonites incited war, but Israel won, 10:1-19.
1. 2 Sam 11, battle with Ammon resumed.
 2. David stayed in Jerusalem, as he did in 10:7
 3. He committed adultery with Bathsheba and tried to cover her pregnancy. Unsuccessful, he had Uriah killed.
 4. He married Bathsheba. She gave birth.
 5. 2 Sam 12, David abominates the villain of Nathan's story. Gotcha. "You are the man!"
 6. Now violence would stay in David's house, v 10-11
 7. David confessed. God forgave Him, but the child, an occasion of enemy scorn, would be taken in death- *not* as a cohort of David's sin, per Deut 24:16.
 8. David sought God with fasting and weeping for the child's life for 7 days. The child died. David moved on.
 9. God gave Solomon through Bathsheba, "adored" (Jedediah), specially loved by God.
 10. Joab set up Ammon's for David to capture

Kid-speak: Remember last time when God had a name for Solomon. Remember what it was? Jedediah. What does that name mean? "God's crazy about him."

- F. 2 Sam 12:30-13:2, David's victories continue to mirror Christ's final ones. David's transgression is mirrored in his firstborn.

Outline:

- I. David takes Ammon's crown and much plunder, 12:30
 - II. David makes the Ammonites laborers, 12:31
 - III. David's firstborn, Amnon, loves his half-sister, Tamar, 13:1
 - IV. Amnon begins to let his emotions rule him, 13:2
- G. "And he took their king's crown from upon his head"

- course
2. "Even to being sick"
 - a. By itself, this might be flattering to a girl, but a wise girl would know that a fellow paralyzed in this state was not offering her a real complement
 - b. On the good side of lovesickness, we have Song of Solomon 5:8, same word, but from the Shulamite
 3. How critical is self-control! **Prov 25:28**; 16:32b
- Kid-speak:** This guy named Amnon was lovesick for Tamar. If he can't get control of that, is this going to end up well? Noper.
- T. "Virgin," from a word meaning separated
 1. She was young and probably hadn't begun training for marriage yet. She was perhaps a year or two off from it.
 2. But she was at least in the pre-window for marriage, based on 13:13
 - U. "Problematical." This is one of the Hebrew words for miracles and great deeds performed by God. "To do *the* slightest *thing* regarding her."
 1. Basically, it would have been a miracle in his mind to approach her in any way
 2. The first use of the word was by the preincarnate Son, confronting Sarah's laughter by asking if anything was "too hard" for Yahweh, Gen 18:14
 3. This was the level of confusion Amnon was in
 - a. *and shouldn't have been in*
 - b. He should have either forced himself to move on from thinking of her *or* done as Tamar was soon to suggest- ask to marry her
 4. Coveting is either wanting what we should not *or* wanting something allowable to an inappropriate degree

Kid-speak: If you're ever in love with somebody so bad you can't even think straight, what do you need to do? Think straight. Thrown in a bunch of prayer, too.

- V. Any time we are highly distressed/ pressed, we are prone to act on emotion. We must be sure that reason ("mind," Rom 7:25) stays in the ascendancy, clothed in prayer

1. "Tamar," meaning "palm tree"
 - a. Absalom's full sister
 - b. This is Tamar II, so to speak. We remember the Tamar in Gen 38 and her 'surprise' benediction of Ruth 4:12
 - c. Repeated in Matt 1:3 in Christ's genealogy
 2. This Tamar will be less fortunate
 3. "Attractive," used also of Sarai, Rachel, Joseph, David, and Abigail. 14x in Song of Solomon. Also of locations.
- R. "And Amnon the son of David loved her"
1. Amnon, son of David through another wife. David's eldest son.
 2. "Amnon," meaning "faithful," "true," or "trustworthy"
 - a. Yipes! Well, none of the names so far will live up to their descriptions
 - b. Even Tamar, instead of being a fruitful palm tree, will retreat into Absalom's house, v 20
 - i. However, the root meaning of Tamar is "erect"
 - ii. She was, indeed, erect of character
 3. "Loved" *ahav* (Hebrew) covers multiple concepts which are in the Greek words for love: loyal love, affection, sensual attraction
 - a. Clearly, Amnon did not love Tamar with a noble love
 - b. Yet he was surely telling himself that he was 'in love' with her

Kid-speak: Here's another story about a pretty girl. What was her name? Tamar? What does that mean? Palm tree. How would you like a name like that?

2 Sam 13:2 And Amnon was distressed because of his sister Tamar, even to becoming sick, for she *was* a virgin, and it was problematical in Amnon's eyes to do *the slightest thing* regarding her.

- S. "Distressed." A noble love would be able to handle such distress/ pressure. We can't say that noble love wouldn't *feel* distressed, but the distress wouldn't take over.
1. Talking and getting to know her would not fulfill his desire
 - a. Because his expectations are out of bounds, he's flummoxed on how to proceed
 - b. And he's not interested in taking a hint on correcting his

1. A deliberate act, signifying, "You are no longer king"
 2. Has this already been done to Satan at the Cross?
 - a. Not finally, he's still called a prince (Eph 2:2) with authority
 - b. In his struggle with Christ, Satan lost, Gen 3:15
 - c. We are to join that conquest "soon," Rom 16:20
 - d. What a day when the last vestige of Satan's power is extinguished! Rev 20:10
- H. "And its weight was a *kikar* of gold"
1. "*Kikar*," usually translated "talent": 75 lbs
 - a. Perhaps this was a crown molded with some sort of body support system for upholding the weight
 - b. It was worthy of note for its size
 2. The gods and kings of this world have real weight and authority
 - a. In the Cross, demons are "wholly divested" (Col 2:15) but those outside the Cross are still in their power
 - b. Christians walking contrary to the Cross invite Satanic intrusion
- I. "Plus a valuable stone"
1. A conspicuous gem was placed somewhere in the crown
 - a. It was noteworthy, by whatever measure; probably huge
 - b. Again, man was made lord over earth. Earth's valuables are part of our overall metrics.
 - c. Gems are part of the New Jerusalem, Rev 21, in its light, v 11, wall, v 18, and its walls' foundations, v 19-21
 2. Man acts with God-like significance
 - a. Which he can own, as ancient societies did (Egypt, etc.)
 - b. Or renounce, as with evolution, in order to justify animalistic impulses

Kid-speak: When David beat the Ammonites, he took their king's crown. Guess how much it weighed? 75 pounds!

- J. "And he brought out the city's plunder- very abundant!"
1. God had blessed the sons of Ammon with rich lands
 - a. Now they passed over to God's people
 - b. "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em" should've been their motto
 2. All the wealth of nations will flow into the New Jerusalem at last, Rev 21:24, 26

2 Sam 12:31 And he brought out the people in it, and set them with the saw, and with iron cutters, and with iron blades. Also he made them to go over into the brick kiln. Yes, he did thusly to all the cities of the sons of Ammon. And David and all the people returned to Jerusalem.

K. “And he brought out the people of the city”

1. Same “brought out” as the plunder
2. The people are little better off than their valuables
 - a. Though they retain their identity
 - b. But now as laborers

L. Are all the people working in the brick kiln, producing bricks for Israel?

1. Then the tools would be brick cutting tools
2. Otherwise, it’s describing a divided labor force
 - a. Some doing various sawing and cutting work
 - b. Others working in the brick kiln

Kid-speak: All the people in Ammon had to become workers for David. But at least they got to stay alive. How would you like to make bricks all day?

M. Ammon would have become comparable to an industrial center

1. Presumably, a sufficient military presence was left to oversee the work
2. David and Israel make the return 40-mile journey to Jerusalem
3. The Ammonites as individuals were free, of course, to adopt Israel’s God
 - a. Since Ammonite culture would still guide their thinking, anyone who stopped honoring Ammonite gods would stick out
 - b. Such traitors would pay a price, in essence losing their whole history
 - c. Converts could presumably form a separate community
 - i. Possibly going through a time of testing to weed out those simply seeking preferential treatment
 - ii. Perhaps eventually gaining official “foreigner” status within Israel itself

N. Christ in the Millennium will rule over a world inhabited largely by the populace left after the destruction of the Beast and his forces, Rev 19-20

1. “Thrones” plural will be set up for judgment, Rev 20:3. God’s people will rule the populace
 - a. But with no lack or unpleasantness in all the earth, Isa 11:6-10; 65:25
 - b. And with no conflict, Isa 2:4
2. But after a thousand years, Satan will arise to stir them once again to rebellion, Rev 20:7

Kid-speak: Jesus is a king, and what king is He going to beat down one day? Satan.

2 Sam 13:1 And afterward it happened that Absalom the son of David had an attractive sister, and her name *was* Tamar. And Amnon the son of David loved her.

O. The alert reader senses something of what’s coming

1. David was told that the sword wouldn’t divert from his house, 12:10
 - a. And evil would rise up against him from his own house, 12:11
 - b. And here we are, directing our observations deep into David’s house: his sons and daughters

P. We note that the story is framed in terms of Absalom: it is his sister Tamar who is desired.

1. But Absalom himself is peripheral in this beginning episode
2. The chronicler, though, shows us here the entranceway into a story about Absalom, who would most directly fulfill the evils forecast from David’s house
3. Ironically, Absalom’s name has “peace” in it, just like Solomon’s
 - a. Absalom means “father of peace”
 - b. David probably saw Absalom as a marker for the beginning (“father of”) of a time of peace
 - c. Yet in him is going to be the greatest violence and confusion

Q. “And afterward it was that Absalom the son of David had an attractive sister, and her name *was* Tamar”